

Serpentinite $Mg_{3-x}(M)_xSi_{2-y}(T)_yO_5(OH)_4$

This is a group of about 20 hydrous silicate minerals with magnesium, iron and in others aluminum being the rich varieties. The three polymorphs of serpentinite are chrysotile, lizardite and antigorite. Chrysotile is the fibrous variety and is used in making asbestos, antigorite will occur either in corrugated plates or fibers, whereas lizardite occurs in platy form or pseudo-hexagonal structures. The appearance of serpentinite is usually green or yellow green with distinctive veining. Serpentine is made from metamorphism of peridotite, pyroxenite and lherzolite in environments with water. Serpentinite is also associated with important deposits of copper, iron, and nickel.



Serpentinite R35